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**The Department of Housing and Community Development
Awards \$290.6 Million in Proposition 1C and Proposition 46 Housing Bond Funding
to Create Housing Opportunities for Thousands of Californians**

(MADERA) – California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) Director Lynn L. Jacobs today was joined by Business, Transportation and Housing Agency Secretary Dale E. Bonner in announcing over \$290.6 million in Proposition 1C and Proposition 46 funds.

“Gov. Schwarzenegger is committed to making the American dream a reality for our neediest residents and other hardworking Californians,” said Secretary Bonner. “Today’s awards will help thousands of families and individuals achieve that dream while boosting local economies through construction related activities.”

The awards were distributed for housing in 44 counties to provide housing opportunities for 13,507 Californians. Proposition 1C is the \$2.85 billion housing bond passed by the voters in November 2006, a part of the Governor’s Strategic Growth Plan. Proposition 46 is the previous \$2.1 billion housing bond approved by voters in November 2002.

Director Lynn Jacobs added that “HCD is also committed to expediting the award of bond funds to make housing available as soon as possible.”

Awards were made through the following housing programs, including:

- \$131.4 million in awards through the Multifamily Housing Program and its Supportive Housing Component will provide permanent low-interest loans for the construction of new affordable apartment homes and rehabilitation of existing affordable units. Californians who make up the vital workforce - the backbone of our economy, as well as seniors, the disabled, homeless and those transitioning from homelessness - are among the future residents of the apartment homes that will be constructed or rehabilitated. The awards will help 1,975 California families or individuals realize the dream of an affordable rental home.

- \$23 million is awarded through the Workforce Housing Reward Program which provides financial rewards to cities and counties for the issuance of building permits for 7,528 new affordable homes. Eighty-eight cities and counties approved 6,459 new rental homes and issued permits for 1,069 homeownership units for lower income families. Of the 88 local governments receiving Workforce Housing Program awards, 56 also received bonus grant funds for their significant progress in meeting their overall housing need.
- \$32.3 million through the Emergency Housing Assistance Program – Capital Development Component which awards funds for capital development activities such as emergency shelters, transitional housing and safe havens that provide shelter and supportive services for homeless individuals and families with 1,220 shelter spaces.
- \$63.8 million through CalHome which awards funds for low -income households to become or remain homeowners provided 1,903 homeownership opportunities. Also, CalHome assists first-time homebuyers with downpayment assistance, home rehabilitation, including the purchase and rehabilitation of manufactured homes.
- \$27 million in commitments through the Joe Serna, Jr. Farmworker Housing Grant Program which offers loans and grants for construction and rehabilitation of affordable owner-occupied and rental apartment homes for farm workers and their families. These funds will help 745 farm worker families secure affordable housing. Activities funded include land acquisition, site development, construction and rehabilitation.
- \$13 million providing for 136 rental homes through the Governor's Homeless Initiative which recognizes the need for more permanent housing for our chronically homeless.

"The awards announced today will help local communities remove regulatory barriers and increase homeownership," said Director Jacobs. "They will also provide California's essential workforce and their families the safe and affordable housing they urgently need to live and work in their communities."

HCD provides leadership, policies and programs to preserve and expand safe and affordable housing opportunities and promote strong communities for all Californians. The Department also supports increasing the supply of housing, especially affordable housing and works to improve the state's housing conditions and the health and safety of its residents. As the lead housing department, HCD is part of the state Business, Transportation and Housing Agency.

For an electronic copy of this release, go visit:

<http://www.hcd.ca.gov/news/release/07242007PressRelease.pdf>

For a listing of total awards to the Central Valley Region, go visit:

<http://www.hcd.ca.gov/news/release/07242007CVAwards.pdf>

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